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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH  
DE RUEHKO #1829 2230457

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

P 110457Z AUG 09

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5303

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY

RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY

RHMFIIU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY

RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY

RHMFIIU/USFJ PRIORITY

INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 5815

RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 8147

RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 3253

RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 6330

RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 9624

RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0374

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2977

RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 7034

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6663

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 001829

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;  
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;  
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;  
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OIIP KMDR KPAO JA

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - AFGHANISTAN

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Front-page items on Tuesday morning included the impact of Typhoon No. 9, which brought heavy rains, floods, and landslides to western Japan on Monday.

¶2. "Afghanistan Should Take First Step toward Independence" The liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (8/11): "Terrorism is escalating in Afghanistan, where a presidential election will be held on August 120. Casualties among foreign troops, which are in charge of maintaining public security there, are increasing. Only an administration that has the confidence of the [Afghan] people will be able to establish a foundation for a nation that is independent from foreign countries.... The coming presidential election will be Afghanistan's first step toward becoming a nation that is not dependent on foreign assistance.... The international community should support the election in order to help as many Afghan people as possible to cast their votes fairly."

ZUMWALT